

## IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

Application of: ) SHAFT SEAL, IN PARTICULAR FOR AN  
OTFRIED SCHWARZKOPF ) AXIAL PISTON COMPRESSOR  
)

Pre. Am. A.  
8/A

**PRELIMINARY AMENDMENT**

Milwaukee, Wisconsin 53202  
March 27, 2002

Box Patent Application  
Asst. Commissioner for Patents  
Washington, D.C. 20231

Sir:

It is requested that the U.S. national stage examination be carried out on the amended claims dated October 12, 2001. Prior to computing the filing fee in this application, kindly amend the above identified application, as follows. The filing fee is to be computed on the amended claims.

**In the Specification:**

Beginning at page 1, between the title and the first line of text, the specification has been amended as follows:

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**CROSS REFERENCE TO RELATED APPLICATION**

A<sup>1</sup> The present application is the U.S. national stage application of International Application PCT/EP00/09564, filed September 29, 2000, which international application was published on April 5, 2001 as International Publication WO 01/23790 A1. The International Application claims priority of German Patent Application 199 47 007.3, filed September 30, 1999.

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